to a clerk is not at all commensurate with the pay the Heads of Departments receive. So the ground of equal work and so equal pay is not applicable. Another point is the Parvathiams form a very large number; and there is a third point that in the case of Parvathiam, generally these people are considered to be men of some position and status who do not accept those places simply for the sake of pay. He is the Village Munsiff and the Village Magistrate and only people of some status will go in for those posts. In olden times it is not even considered as pay but only the amount to meet the expenditure for the purchase of stationery articles and thing like that. It will thus be seen that the Special Finance Committee are, if at all, erring only on the side of generosity. For these various reasons I cannot find my way to support this amendment.

The proposition that Parvathiakkarans and Menons be paid Rs. 20 and 18 respectively was put and negatived, the President voting against.

Jail Warders.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Amendment (d): "*that Jail warders be given Rs. 20—1—30 per mensem and the Head warders be paid 30—1—45 per mensem.*" I find these officers to be a particular set of men. They are there in the Jails undergoing the privations of Jail without committing any offence. It is only two sorts of men who go to jails; persons who commit crimes and those who do not pay their debts. But over and above these two classes we find these officers in Jail and more or less there is no difference between convicts, civil prisoners and these warders. They are more responsible than the persons who are within the Jail for they are to guard the prisoners. They are undergoing the Jail punishments without committing any sort of offence. I say, they should be put on a different level and their case should be considered with mercy. Certainly, their pay should be something higher than that of the ordinary officers.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—I second it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I support it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What is the recommendation?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The recommendations are that the pay is to be increased from Rs. 15—20 and 20—30.

Some Members.—What is the present scale?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Warders Rs. 12—15, Head warders Rs. 17—30. I recommended Rs. 15—20 and Rs. 20—30.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Are warders working continuously or by the process of shift?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—In turns.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It—

Deputy President.—According to the amendment, warders are to get Rs. 20—30 and Head warders Rs. 30—45.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The warders as well as the Head warders should be given, it is understood, free quarters. Rs. 30—45 is not appropriate, while the graduates are given Rs. 30—60 only!

Deputy President.—The question before the House is that the Jail warders be given Rs. 20—1—30 and the Head warders Rs. 30—1—45 per mensem be passed.

Question put and negatived.

Clerks.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Amendment No. E: "*that all clerks be paid Rs. 25—60 per mensem instead of the two grades of Rs. 25—40 and 40—60, and if the same be not possible, they will be allowed to automatically rise to Rs. 60 after 20 years of service.*" What is suggested in the report is a certain number of posts on Rs. 25—40 and a certain number on 40—60. The appendix shows the total number of clerks is something like 200 and odd. Some 200 persons are to get only Rs. 25—40, while 10 or 12 are to get 40—60. That is, clerks who enter service have to starve on 40. My reference to the appendix is about the Judicial Department alone. There are some 200 persons altogether who will get only Rs. 25—40, and there are only 10 persons who get Rs. 40—60. That is certainly an injustice done to the greater number of men. It is only when vacancy occurs in the higher grade that there is a chance of promotion for clerks in 25—40 grade. So, I say that a majority will have to retire on Rs. 40. Therefore, I suggest to change the scale to Rs. 25—60.

Deputy President.—What will be the additional amount that has got to be met? Have you any idea?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If he has any idea, he will not have talked like this.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—When we consider the equity of a certain thing, it is difficult to consider the financial side. Of course financial implications have to be considered at their proper time. We find that a man who entered service on Rs. 20 has to starve on Rs. 40 after so many years of service and retire on half of Rs. 40. There is no comparison between the number in the lower grade and the number in the higher grade. To overcome this difficulty, I recommend Rs. 25—60 so that every clerk may automatically rise to the highest level of pay. Or as an alternative suggestion I recommend that

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly